

**03** Dr Jitendra launches 'Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi' to mark Good Governance Day

**03** Framers of COI were very particular for protecting-preserving-defending soul spirits of Constitution

**05** JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates Christmas

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## Unity needed for realizing Vikshit Bharat vision: LG Sinha



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at an event on Wednesday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday tribute to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya on the occasion of their birth anniversary.

Mohan Malaviya and Atal Bihari Vajpayee represent the conscience of Bharat. He said the vision of the two giant leaders paved the way for socio-economic transformation of the nation. "Mahamana's relentless pursuit to public welfare and nation building had shaped the idea of self-reliant, modern and united India. The vision of Mahamana had opened up new frontiers in education, technology and

industrial development of the country," the Lieutenant Governor said. Paying homage to Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Lieutenant Governor spoke on the lifelong campaigns of the former Prime Minister dedicated to nation building and public welfare. "Nation should be supreme for an individual. To ensure this Atal Ji gave us the principles of 'Indianization'

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- ▶ Pays tribute to Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Mahamana Pt Madan Mohan Malaviya on their birth anniversaries
- ▶ Mahamana, Atal Ji represent conscience of Bharat. Their vision paved way for socio-economic transformation of nation
- ▶ Mahamana's relentless pursuit to public welfare, nation building had shaped idea of self-reliant, modern, united India
- ▶ Mahamana's vision opened up new frontiers in education, technology, industrial development of country
- ▶ Nation should be supreme for an individual. To ensure this, Atal Ji gave us the principles of 'Indianization', 'Nation-First'
- ▶ Highlights important role of youth in taking public services to grassroots levels; emphasises on shaping new framework for Jan-Bhagidari, use of new technologies for transparency and accountability at all levels
- ▶ I want to see every hand working like skilled sculptor to create a beautiful, victorious and prosperous India
- ▶ Unity our greatest strength; young generation must unite society with determination
- ▶ I want to see sense of responsibility, steadfastness towards duties, steely determination in every youth towards nation-building
- ▶ Our cultural ideals, values should

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## Railways successfully conducts trial run on India's first cable-stayed rail bridge in J&K



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: The Railways has successfully conducted a trial run of a tower wagon on India's first cable-stayed rail bridge, the Anji Khad Bridge, in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, paving the way for the start of rail services to Kashmir in January next year. Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw shared a video clip of the trial run on the social media platform X. The railway ministry issued a statement, saying, "Giving wings to connectivity in Jammu and Kashmir, the trial run of a tower wagon on India's first cable-stayed rail bridge, the Anji Khad Bridge, was successfully completed for the USBRL project."

Baramulla Railway Link (USBRL) project is aimed at providing rail connectivity between the Kashmir Valley and the rest of the country. The Anji Khad Bridge, featuring a single pylon with a height of 331 metres above the riverbed, is yet another engineering milestone achieved by the Indian Railways under the USBRL project, officials said. Described as a "true engineering marvel", the bridge has 48 cables on its lateral and central spans. Work on its pylon began in 2017, and the structure stands 191

metres above its foundation level, they added. It is the second-highest railway bridge after the iconic arch bridge over the Chenab at Kauri, which is the world's highest railway bridge at 359 metres above the riverbed - 35 metres higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The Anji Khad Bridge has a total length of 473.25 metres, with the viaduct measuring 120 metres and the central embankment 94.25 metres, the officials said.

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## 5 doctors suspended after pregnant woman's death in Rajouri

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAJOURI/JAMMU: Five doctors of the Government Medical College (GMC) Rajouri were suspended following the death of a pregnant woman that sparked concerns about alleged medical negligence, officials said on Tuesday.

Razim Akhter (35) of Badhual Kotranka died at the GMC Rajouri on Sunday afternoon. She was five-and-a-half months pregnant and had been admitted with complications. Initially treated at a hospital in Kandi, she was later referred to GMC Rajouri for specialised care. Officials said that five doctors have been suspended and attached to the office of the Medical Superintendent of Associated Hospital while two doctors and eight other staff members, including paramedics and support staff, have been issued show-cause notices. The suspended doctors have been identified as Dr Venu Bharti and Dr Neetu (Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology) Dr Shakir Ahmed Parray, Dr Shafkat Ulla, and Dr Anif Saleem Rather (Department of Casualty), the officials said. These doctors were on night duty in the Emergency

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## CM conducts surprise checks of 2 major hospitals in Srinagar

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday conducted surprise inspections of premier Health Institutions in Srinagar to gain firsthand knowledge of the facilities and services being provided to patients and their attendants.

The Chief Minister visited the Bone & Joint Hospital, Barzulla, one of the region's top Orthopaedic healthcare facilities. During his inspection, he toured various sections and wards, interacting with patients and attendants to



CM Omar Abdullah enquiring well-being of a patient in a hospital at Srinagar on Wednesday.

understand their concerns. Accompanied by Minister of Health, Sakeena Itoo, Senior Faculty Members and Doctors, the Chief Minister

engaged with hospital staff to assess the winter arrangements, treatment facilities and the availability of medical professionals and para-

medics. Omar Abdullah also inspected the state-of-the-art additional block of the hospital, constructed under the Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) with funding from the World Bank. Designed with earthquake-resilient technology, the block will add 160 beds, increasing the hospital's total capacity from 150 to 310 beds. During his visit, the Chief Minister emphasized the need to expedite the completion of the new block, which is critical for addressing the space crunch caused by a

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## Pakistani airstrikes kill 46 people in eastern Afghanistan: Taliban

**AGENCY**  
PESHAWAR: Pakistan's airstrikes on eastern Afghanistan killed 46 people, mostly women and children, a Taliban government official said on Wednesday, raising fears of further straining the relations between the two neighbours. Hamdullah Fitrat, the deputy spokesman for the Afghan government, said those killed in the strikes that targeted four locations in Barmal, a district in the province of Paktika, were refugees, adding that six others were also wounded. This comes a day after Pakistani security officials,

speaking on the condition of anonymity in line with regulations, told The Associated Press that Tuesday's operation was to dismantle a training facility and kill insurgents in Paktika in Afghanistan. Earlier Wednesday, Mohammad Khurasani, the spokesman for the Pakistani Taliban or Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, claimed in a statement that 50 people, including 27 women and children, have died in the strikes. He said they were "unarmed refugees" who fled to Afghanistan because of Pakistan's offensive in

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## Man tries to immolate self near parliament, taken to hospital

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: A man in his early 30s tried to immolate himself near the new Parliament building on Wednesday afternoon, an official of the Delhi Fire Service said. A call regarding the incident near the Railway Bhawan opposite the Parliament building was received at around 3.35 pm and a fire tender was pressed into service, the official said. The security personnel deployed near Parliament rushed the man identified as Jitendra, a resident of Bagpat in Uttar Pradesh, to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, he said. "He set himself on fire at the roundabout near Rail Bhawan. The local police and railway police along with some people immediately extinguished the fire and the person was sent to the hospital," an official statement said. According to initial investigations, he took the extreme step due to a dispute

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## CRPF doing commendable job in restoring peace in J&K: Shah

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said that the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has done a commendable job in restoring peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeastern states besides tackling Naxalism.

Shah also said that the CRPF is playing an important role in ensuring internal security and peace in the country, according to an official statement. The Home Minister said

this while visiting the CRPF headquarters where he met senior officers of the force, including its Director General Anish Dayal Singh, it said. During the visit, Shah had a comprehensive review of the operations and adminis-

trative efficiency of the largest paramilitary force. The CRPF has done a commendable job in tackling Naxalism and restoring peace and stability in the Northeastern states and Kashmir, he said. The CAPFs, which fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs, include the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), National Security Guard, Border

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## Drug peddler arrested with 10 kgs of poppy

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A drug peddler was arrested here on Wednesday and 10 kgs of poppy was recovered from his possession, officials said. A police team, while conducting routine naka checking at Sidhra bridge, intercepted a tanker coming from Nagrota towards Narwal, they said. The driver of the tanker attempted to evade but was apprehended and 10 kgs of poppy was recovered from the vehicle, they added. The accused has been identified as Kamaljeet Singh, a resident of Gole Gujral Ranjipura in Jammu.

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## Chugh describes AAP as party of false promises, scams; betraying Aam Aadmi

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Wednesday accused the Kejriwal's AAP government in Delhi of becoming synonymous with scams, betraying the very Aam Aadmi it claims to represent. In a statement, Chugh drew attention to a notification issued by the Women and Child Development Department and the Health and Family Welfare Department of the Delhi government, which exposes yet another scam by AAP. He said, "The notification makes it

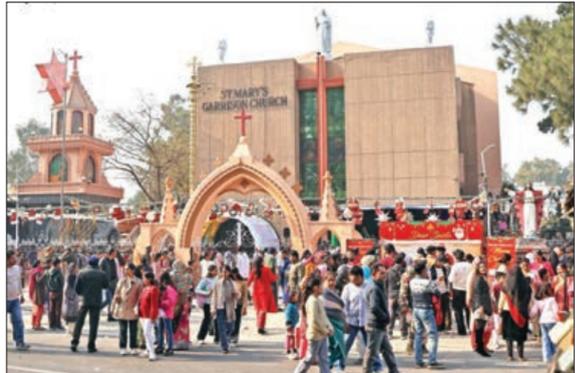
clear that there is no Mahila Samman Yojana or Sanjeevani Scheme in Delhi." He remarked, "The drama of issued by the Delhi Health and Women Welfare Department confirms that the so-called Sanjeevani and Mahila Samman schemes do not exist, exposing the falsehoods propagated by AAP, he added. Chugh emphasized that Kejriwal's promise of providing Rs 2,100 per month to women has proven to be a hoax, calling it yet another example of AAP's lies and deceit. He said, "The people of Delhi deserve a government that is genuinely committed to their welfare, and the BJP will work towards a brighter future for the citizens of Delhi."

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## Christmas celebrated with religious fervour in J&K

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: The Christian community in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday celebrated Christmas with religious fervour as devotees, including tourists, held special prayers. The churches across the valley were decked up and decorated with colourful bunting, lights and balloons, and wore festive look. The biggest Mass was held at the Holy Family Catholic Church at Maulana Azad Road here, where members of the Christian community, including women and children, had assembled to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, and held special prayers. Among the believers were a few tourists who joined the locals on the auspicious day. "We felt good, we enjoyed a lot. There is no danger, people live together with brotherhood and we celebrated Christmas," Poonam, a tourist from Jammu, said.

While she lamented the absence of a white Christmas in Srinagar -- as the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir has had no snowfall so far this season -- she prayed for a good snowfall in the valley. "It is colder. Kashmir used to have white Christmas and it was great, but this year, there has been no snowfall in Srinagar and people are facing difficulties. We pray for a good snowfall," she added. Another tourist, Pun Mudhiraj, a resident of Bengaluru, visiting the valley with his wife and three children, said Christmas is a season of hope, love, joy, caring and sharing. "We met three other families here, we were strangers, but we became friends. That is the essence of Christmas celebrations. We felt good here," he said. Christmas celebrations were also held in other churches of the valley, including in Gulmarg and Baramulla. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant



People throng to St Mary's Garrison Church Gandhi Nagar on the occasion of Christmas on Wednesday.

Governor Manoj Sinha greeted the members of the Christian community on the occasion, and asked the people to imbibe Jesus Christ's message of love and compassion. "Wish you all a Merry Christmas.

Let's imbibe Jesus Christ's message of love, compassion & forgiveness, and work for welfare of humankind and upliftment of the needy & underprivileged. May this Christmas fill the hearts of people

with warmth, love & goodwill towards fellow beings," Sinha said on X. National Conference president Farooq Abdullah, and party vice president and J-K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also greeted people, hoping the day augurs well for peace and prosperity in J-K. "I extend warm greetings to the Christian community on the joyous occasion of Christmas. This day symbolises the spirit of selflessness and empathy, dedicating oneself to easing human suffering. May this day serve as a catalyst for global peace and prosperity," the senior Abdullah said in a statement. The J-K chief minister emphasised the importance of brotherhood, harmony, and amity as integral components of the Union Territory's rich cultural heritage. Director General of Police J-K, Nalin Prabhat, also greeted the people of J-K a very Happy Christmas. ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**Intense cold wave conditions in Kashmir**  
**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Minimum temperatures decreased at most places in Kashmir as the valley continued to reel under intense cold conditions, leading to the freezing of several water bodies and water supply lines in many areas. Srinagar recorded a low of minus 7.3 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night -- down from the previous night's minus 6.6 degrees Celsius, the meteorological department said on Wednesday. It has predicted a dip of two to three degrees in the minimum temperatures in Kashmir over the next two days. Except in Gulmarg, the night temperatures plummeted across all other weather stations in the Kashmir valley. ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 21.2°C Min: 7.6°C

Humidity  
Max: 74 Min: 63

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 7.4°C Min: -4.9°C

Humidity  
Max: 98 Min: 70  
Sunset: 17:32 Hours  
Sunrise: 07:31 Hours